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METHODS FOR IMAGING THE LYMPHATIC SYSTEM USING DENDRIMER-BASED CONTRAST AGENTS

Abstract

5 Methods are disclosed for lymphatic system imaging using dendrimer
conjugates as contrast agents. The disclosed methods are applicable to the imaging of
all lymphatic structures, but in particular embodiments are particularly suited for
imaging specific parts of the lymphatic system such as lymph nodes or lymphatic
vessels. The methods permit the assessment of abnormal conditions within the
10 lymphatic system, such as lymphoma/lymphoproliferative disease, inflammation, and
cancer metastasis. The methods also may be used to identify and locate lymph nodes
into which lymph fluid flows from a tumor.